

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

This listing of claims replaces all prior versions and listing of claims in the present application:

1. (Currently Amended) A method for forming a heat transfer device for dissipating heat comprising the steps of:

arranging a plurality of fins that are formed with openings that substantially align with one another so as to define a die;

driving a heat pipe ~~comprising a thermally conductive envelope~~ into said die so as to deform ~~said envelope~~ the heat pipe thereby forming at least one flattened surface and wherein an outside shape of ~~said thermally conductive envelope~~ the heat pipe is complementary with said openings; and

supporting said fins upon ~~said thermally conductive envelope~~ the heat pipe such that ~~said thermally conductive envelope~~ the heat pipe substantially defines a mounting base for said heat transfer device, and is attachable to a heat source for thermal energy exchange with said heat source.

2. – 7. (Withdrawn)

8. (Currently Amended) The method of claim 1 including forming a collar raised around at least part of said opening prior to driving ~~said thermally conductive envelope~~ the heat pipe.

9. (Currently Amended) The method according to claim 1 wherein said fins are substantially exclusively supported by said at least one ~~thermally conductive envelope~~ heat pipe.

10. (Currently Amended) The method of claim 1 including changing said outside shape of said heat pipe by driving ~~said thermally conductive envelope~~ the heat pipe on a forming surface defined by said plurality of fins.

11. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 1 wherein arranging a plurality of fins includes forming a stack of spaced-apart fins.

12. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 1 including forming the fins from substantially parallel flat sheets.

13. (Currently Amended) The method of claim 1 including deforming the ~~thermally conductive envelope~~ heat pipe by contact with the fins.

14. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 1 including aligning the openings in the fins to define a channel, and wherein the channel has a reduction in channel width for at least partially defining the outside shape of the heat pipe.

15. (Currently Amended) The method of claim 1 including forming the ~~conductive envelope~~ heat pipe to define an oval cross-section having a flattened surface on at least one side.